IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims: 23-31 and 38-40.

Rewrite the claims as follows:

1-14.   (Canceled).

15.   (Currently amended) A method of searching conversations, comprising:

at a server:

  receiving a search query from a client;

  identifying a conversation a plurality of conversations relevant to the search query, the conversation plurality of conversations including at least two conversations each having [[one]] two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria and a respective conversation identifier; and

  returning the conversation to the client a list of the identified conversations as a search result to the search query.

16.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein [[the]] identifying the conversation plurality of conversations includes identifying a first message relevant to the search query.

17.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising associating the first message to [[the]] a respective conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than the subject of the message.

18.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising associating the first message to the respective conversation based in part on information other than a normalized version of the subject of the message.

19.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising associating the first message to [[the]] a respective conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than one or both of a references field and an in-reply-to field.

20.   (Currently amended) A method of searching messages, comprising:

  searching a message repository to identify [[one]] two or more messages relevant to a search query, wherein each identified message is associated with a respective conversation of a plurality of conversations, each conversation having a respective conversation identifier,

wherein at least one respective conversation of the plurality of conversations comprises ~~comprising one~~ two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria~~, and having a respective conversation identifier~~;

identifying the respective conversation identifiers of the conversations associated with the ~~one or more~~ identified messages;

creating a list of [[one]] two or more conversations, each of the conversations in the list corresponding to a respective identified conversation identifier; and

producing at least a portion of the list of [[one]] two or more conversations as the search result.

21.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising associating ~~the first~~ a respective message to [[the]] a conversation in the plurality of conversations based in part on information other than a subject of the message.

22.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising associating ~~the first~~ a respective message to [[the]] a conversation in the plurality of conversations based in part on information other than a normalized version of [[the]] a subject reference of the message.

23-31. (Canceled)

32.   (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium, storing one or more programs for execution by one or more processors at a server system, the one or more programs ~~program product, for use with a computer system, the computer program product~~ comprising:

instructions for receiving a search query from a client;

instructions for identifying ~~a conversation~~ a plurality of conversations relevant to the search query, the ~~conversation~~ plurality of conversations including at least two conversations each having [[one]] two or more messages sharing a common set of characteristics that meet predefined criteria and a respective conversation identifier; and

instructions for returning ~~the conversation~~ to the client a list of the identified conversations as a search result to the search query.

33.   (Currently amended) The computer ~~program product~~ readable storage medium of claim 32, wherein the instructions for identifying ~~the conversation~~ a plurality of conversations include instructions for identifying a first message relevant to the search query.

34.   (Currently amended) The computer ~~program product~~ <u>readable storage medium</u> of claim 33, further comprising instructions for associating the first message to [[the]] <u>a</u> <u>respective</u> conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than the subject of the message.

35.   (Currently amended) The computer ~~program product~~ <u>readable storage medium</u> of claim 34, further comprising instructions for associating the first message to the <u>respective</u> conversation based in part on information other than a normalized version of the subject of the message.

36.   (Currently amended) The computer ~~program product~~ <u>readable storage medium</u> of claim 34, further comprising instructions for associating the first message to [[the]] <u>a</u> <u>respective</u> conversation based at least in part on a subject of the message and information other than one or both of a references field and an in-reply-to field.

37.   (Currently amended) A computer <u>readable storage medium, storing one or more</u> <u>programs for execution by one or more processors, the one or more programs</u> ~~program~~ ~~product, for use in conjunction with a computer system, for searching messages,~~ comprising:

          instructions for searching a message repository to identify [[one]] <u>two</u> or more messages relevant to a search query, wherein each identified message is associated with a respective conversation of a plurality of conversations, each conversation <u>having a respective</u> <u>conversation identifier, wherein at least one respective conversation of the plurality of</u> <u>conversations comprises</u> ~~comprising one~~ <u>two</u> or more messages ~~and having a respective~~ ~~conversation identifier~~;

          instructions for identifying conversation identifiers of the conversations associated with the identified messages;

          instructions for creating a list of [[one]] <u>two</u> or more conversations, each of the [[one]] <u>two</u> or more conversations corresponding to a respective identified conversation identifier; and

          instructions for producing the list of <u>two or more</u> conversations as the search result.

38-40. (Canceled)